



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THREE FELONS INDICTED FOR ILLEGALLY POSSESSING FIREARMS

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that three felons were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate and unrelated cases, for illegally possessing firearms.

* **Raymond H. Hollis**, 41, of Macon, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Today's indictment alleges that **Hollis** was in possession of a Dan Wesson .22-caliber handgun and ammunition in Oregon County on March 27, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Hollis** has a 1998 criminal felony conviction for resisting arrest in Howell County, Mo.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex C. Lewis. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Oregon County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

* **Robert J. Lacher**, 44, of Fair Grove, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Today's indictment alleges that **Lacher** was in possession of six rifles, two shotguns, a handgun and ammunition in Dallas County on April 1, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Lacher** has a 1991 criminal felony conviction for driving while intoxicated in Greene County, Mo., and a 1988 criminal felony conviction for burglary in Greene County.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex C. Lewis. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Dallas County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

* **Carl W. Woods**, 33, of Marshfield, Mo., was charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Today's indictment alleges that **Woods** was in possession of a Davis Industries .380-caliber pistol and ammunition in Webster County on Jan. 31, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Woods** has two 1999 criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance in Mesa County, Colorado, and a 1999 criminal felony conviction for possession and sale of a controlled substance in Mesa County.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas D. Gaston. It was investigated by the Webster County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow